

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00040 061014Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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TAGS: PFOR PINT CY TU GR US

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF CYPRIOT PRESS - DEC 28 - JAN 5

REF: (A) 75 NICOSIA 3550 (NOTAL), (B) 75 NICOSIA 3565 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS EXPECTS INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS TO RESUME IN JANUARY BUT IS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT OUTCOME AND CONTINUING "TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE"; WELCOMES KOSYGIN VISIT TO TURKEY; HAILS VISIT TO CYPRUS OF SENATOR EAGLETON; SPECULATES ABOUT BIZONAL FEDERATION PLAN ALLEGEDLY PROMOTED BY USG, WEST GERMANY, AND FRANCE; AND CRITICIZES UPI REPORTS FROM ATHENS LINKING LYSSARIDES AND GREEK CYPRIOTS WITH WELCH ASSASSINATION. TURK CYPRIOT PRESS SCORES GREEK ATTITUDES, TAKES HARDLINE ON TALKS' RESUMPTION AND TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS, TERMS ENOSIS A CONTINUING THREAT, LAMBASTES SENATOR EAGLETON AS GREEK

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 00040 061014Z

"MOUTHPIECE", AND ATTACKS TURK CYPRIOT LEADERSHIP'S

FAILURE TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH COMMUNITY'S SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. END SUMMARY.

2. RESUMPTION OF TALKS: PRESS HIGHLIGHTED CONTINUING EFFORTS OF UN SYG WALDHEIM TO RESUME INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND TREATED THEIR RESUMPTION IN JANUARY AS FOREGONE CONCLUSION. HOWEVER, IT WAS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT, THE TURKS' "INTRANSIGENCE", AND ULTIMATE INTENTIONS. IN THIS REGARD, PAPERS FEATURES GOC CLAIMS OF CONTINUING TURKISH ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE DEMOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF CYPRUS THROUGH IMPORTATION OF ADDITIONAL 20,000 MAINLANDERS AND DENKTASH STATEMENT (LATER MODIFIED) REGARDING UNION OF "TFSC" WITH TURKEY IF AGREEMENT ON BIZONAL FEDERATION NOT ACHIEVED.

3. KOSYGIN VISIT TO TURKEY: LEFT-WING AND PRO-MAKARIOS PRESS WISHFULLY PLAYED UP VISIT PRIME MINISTER KOSYGIN TO ANKARA AS DEMONSTRATION OF PRESSURE ON TURKS, SET-BACK FOR TURKEY, AND BOOST FOR CYPRUS. EDITORIALS STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF SOVIET SUPPORT FOR "SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY" OF CYPRUS. COMMUNIST HARAVGI TERMED COMMUNIQUE "POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION"; PRO-MAKARIOS PHILELEFTHEROS HEADLINED: "TURKEY FAILED TO OBTAIN SOVIET SUPPORT ON CYPRUS". ON MORE SOBER NOTE, PRO-CLERIDES AGON WARNED THAT CYPRIOTS SHOULD NOT BE MISLED, THAT TURKEY ALWAYS PRETENDS TO RESPECT INTERNATIONAL LAW WHEN "UNDER PRESSURE", AND THAT KOSYGIN VISIT IS CONNECTED WITH STRAINS IN US-TURKISH RELATIONS AND "WIDER SOVIET INTERESTS".

4. WELCH ASSASSINATION: (75 NICOSIA 3550). PRESS INTEREST HAS DIED DOWN IN GENERAL BUT UPI REPORT FROM ATHENS LINKING RADICAL LEFTIST LEADER LYSSARIDES TO MURDER (AS REVENGE FOR AUGUST 1974 ATTEMPT ON LYSSARIDES' LIFE) HAS ELICITED CRIES OF "PROVOCATION" FROM LYSSARIDES' WEEKLY ANEXARTITOS AND CHARGES THAT STORY IS "EFFORT TO JUSTIFY PAST AND FUTURE CRIMES." PRO-CLERIDES WEEKLY ALITHIA ALSO CHARGED THAT "CIA IS TRYING TO INVOLVE CYPRIOTS IN THE WELCH MURDER."

5. EAGLETON VISIT: (75 NICOSIA 3565). PRESS LAVISHED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNANIMOUS PRAISE ON SENATOR'S VISIT, TERMING IT "VERY USEFUL", AND EXPRESSED HOPES THAT IT WOULD ASSIST HIS EFFORTS WITH CONGRESS TO REMOVE THE "FLAGRANT INJUSTICE COMMITTED AT THE EXPENSE OF OUR PEOPLE OVER THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF."

6. RUMORED BIZONAL FEDERATION PLAN: EXTREME RIGHTIST MESIMVRINI JANUARY 2 FEATURED DETAILED "PLAN" FOR

BIZONAL FEDERATION ALLEGEDLY PROMOTED BY USG, WEST GERMANY, AND FRANCE AND DISCUSSED BY PRIME MINISTER KARAMANLIS AND FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT DURING LATTER'S RECENT ATHENS VISIT. "PLAN" CALLED FOR GREEK PRESIDENT, TURKISH PRIME MINISTER, 75-25 PERCENT DIVISION IN CIVIL SERVICE AND ASSEMBLY, RETURN OF ALL REFUGEES, SECURITY GUARANTEES AND OVER \$1 BILLION (*) IN ECONOMIC AID FROM USG AND NATO. PRESS HAS NOT TAKEN PLAN SERIOUSLY BUT GOC AND TURK CYPRIOT SPOKESMEN WERE MOVED TO TERM IT (RESPECTIVELY) "UNFOUNDED" AND "A LIE AND AN ILLUSION".

7. YEAR-END REFLECTIONS: ALL IN ALL, END OF YEAR GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS SEEMS WISHFUL BUT SUBDUED, CHARY OF THE FUTURE BUT DETERMINED TO PUSH ONWARD, AND EVER READY FOR JOURNALISTIC FISTICUFFS. PRO-MAKARIOS PHILELEFTHEROS SAYS 1975 SAW FOUNDATIONS LAID FOR "LONG STRUGGLE". PRO-CLERIDES AGON REFLECTS GREEK NEGOTIATOR'S HOPES THAT THOUGH 1975 BROUGHT NO REAL PROGRESS TOWARD A SOLUTION, "1976 WILL BE A YEAR OF DEVELOPMENTS." LYSSARIDES' TA NEA CALLS FOR "DETERMINATION TO STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND INTERNATIONALIZATION, REGARDLESS OF THE SACRIFICES." COMMUNIST HARAVGI, CARRYING MESSAGE OF AKEL LEADER PAPAIOANNOU, SIGNALS THEME OF "UNITY, PATIENCE, AND OPTIMISM."
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